

Romel Mackelprang,  
Certificate Coordinator

121 Senior Hall

509.359.6484

Certificates

### UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

The Disability Studies Certificate Program is located administratively in the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences and Social Work and directed by the Center for Disability Studies and Universal Access. However, the Certificate Program is interdisciplinary involving multiple academic departments throughout the university.

Disability Studies is a multidisciplinary field drawing from humanities, liberal arts and the sciences and is taught by faculty from multiple fields and disciplines. The Disability Studies Certificate program, offered at the undergraduate and graduate levels, educates students to develop an understanding of disability, disability culture and people with disabilities as inclusive members of society. The program's emphasis on universal access complements the university's mission to prepare its graduates to live and work in a diverse society.

The Disability Studies Certificate program recognizes disability is part of the tapestry of a diverse society. It emphasizes "universal access" the philosophy that society should be inclusive of people of all diverse backgrounds and traits and that the responsibility for diversity transcends traditional identity based characteristics. Universal Access (UA) embraces an approach that responsible societies do not just accommodate minorities but are constructed for people of all; for all people; majority and minority, typical and atypical.

### CERTIFICATE

#### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES – STUDENTS WILL:

- demonstrate knowledge of the perceptions and beliefs about disability throughout history and in contemporary society;
- identify disability culture and recognize the contributions of disabled persons in society;
- display knowledge of how laws and policies influence the lives of people with disabilities;
- analyze societal representations of defining disability including the moral, medical and social models;
- understand disability as a characteristic in the diverse tapestry of society;
- apply the principles of universal access to disability and to other diverse societal characteristics.

#### DISABILITY STUDIES CERTIFICATE (15 CREDITS)

Disability Studies is a 15 credit hour university Certificate Program that approaches disability as diversity and uses universal access as a theme. To receive the certificate, students must successfully complete each of the required courses.

##### Required Courses:

- DSST 310 Disability, Culture and Society (5)
- DSST 410 Disability as Diversity (5)
- DSST 490 Senior Capstone: Project in Universal Access (5)

Total credits for above certificate

15 credits

### GRADUATE PROGRAM

The Interdisciplinary Disability Studies Program encourages people with a minimum of a bachelor's degree preparation and who are interested in disability, disability culture, and the lived experiences of persons with disabilities to enroll in the graduate courses offered. Post-baccalaureate students and matriculated graduated students are invited to enroll in the program by contacting the Center for Disability Studies and Universal Access. Non-matriculated students will be required to follow university procedures to enroll in the Certificate Program.

#### GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN DISABILITY STUDIES (15 CREDITS)

The Graduate Disability Studies Certificate is a 15 credit hour program, consisting of three courses, including a community-based service learning course.

##### Required Courses:

- DSST 501 Disability, Culture and Universal Access in Society (5)
- DSST 510 Disability as Diversity (5)
- DSST 590 Interdisciplinary Project in Universal Access (5)

Total credits for above certificate

15 credits

## Disability Studies Courses

*Terms offered:* fall, winter, spring, summer (FWSU). If no terms are indicated check with the department or EagleNET.

#### DSST 310 Disability, Culture and Society (5) [satisfies cultural and gender diversity university graduation requirement]

This course introduces students to disability as diversity and to the culture of people with disabilities. Historical and contemporary beliefs about disability will be addressed. Universal access will be introduced as an emerging context for disability rights and human rights.

#### DSST 410 Disability as Diversity (5)

Disability is just one of many manifestations of human diversity. This course has been developed to help explore disability throughout the lifespan and in the social and societal contexts that frame disability experience. Students from multiple fields will develop understanding of disability accommodation and how universal access benefits all of society, including those from majority and minority backgrounds.

#### DSST 490 Senior Capstone: Project in Universal Access (5)

[satisfies senior capstone university graduation requirement]

*Prerequisite:* DSST 410 or permission of the instructor.

This course will provide students the opportunity to develop a community-based, service-learning project with colleagues from multiple academic disciplines. Under the direction of the instructor, students will participate in a project that addresses universal access in the context of a diverse society. At the discretion of the student's academic major advisor, it can also serve as a Senior Capstone experience. Weekly lectures will integrate conceptual and practical learning relative to universal access for diverse populations including those with disabilities.

#### DSST 501 Disability, Culture and Universal Access in Society (5)

*Prerequisite:* baccalaureate degree or instructor permission.

This course is designed to introduce students to disability from a progressive and contemporary perspective that places disabilities as a component of the diverse tapestry of society. It introduces the principle of universal access (UA): a society developed for all—majority and minority, typical and atypical. It focuses on the reciprocal interactions between disability populations and the economic, physical, social, political, cultural and spiritual environments. It identifies how disability is conceptualized differently in varied contexts and analyzes how disability fits within the contemporary discourse of human diversity in a global context.

#### DSST 510 Disability as Diversity (5)

*Prerequisite:* baccalaureate degree or instructor permission.

Disability is just one form of human diversity. This course has been developed to help explore disability throughout the lifespan and in the social and societal contexts that frame the disability experience through the lens of diversity. Students from a variety of fields will develop understanding of how universal access benefits all of society, including those from majority and minority backgrounds.

#### DSST 590 Interdisciplinary Project in Universal Access (5)

*Prerequisite:* DSST 510 or instructor permission.

This course will provide students the opportunity to develop a community-based service learning project with colleagues from multiple academic disciplines. Under the direction of the instructor, students will participate in a project that addresses universal access in the context of diverse societies.